

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the present abstract with the following new abstract.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A coated material, process for producing the same, and novel use of a coating agent are disclosed in which the use is a method of controlling time at which a coated material begins to dissolve in a solvent which includes providing a coating agent composed of yeast cell wall fractions, as a primary constituent, consisting of cell residue of yeast which has been treated with enzymes and subsequently an acidic solution having a preselected concentration, and water to remove internal water soluble cell constituents; coating a solid material with the coating agent to provide a coated material; and placing the coated material in the solvent, wherein the preselected concentration of the acidic solution may be varied to control the time at which the coated material begins to dissolve in the solvent.